

September 2011

Delegate Doings



\$1.20
incl. GST

ISSN 1446-6716

Volume 10, issue 9.

Art Escape Embroidery Weekend

Last weekend, another in the very successful series of Art Escape Weekends, organised by Bombala Council staff, was held at the Delegate Arts Centre.

Judy Wilford, a noted embroidery visual artist from Armidale, guided thirteen participants from the local area, Sydney and Bomaderry, in creating beautiful miniature landscape pieces in embroidery. She taught the group her technique of layering different types of fabrics to develop a landscape in the background, and then the design and stitching sequences of the layered surfaces of the foreground, using different embroidery stitches to create the trees, the grasses and the flowers of the landscape.

The group also saw a power point presentation of some examples of her beautiful work which can be found in travelling exhibitions, private, diplomatic and corporate collections in Australia and overseas. All of the group were very inspired by her knowledge and her creative ability, and very much appreciated the opportunity to be taught by such a talented visual artist.

Below: Left: Jan Illingsworth and Pam Scott Right: Lesley Smith, Beverly Moulds and Judy Wilford.



Next Issue: 7th October then: 4th November and: 16th December

Inside this issue:

Borderline Gallery	4
Spring Garden Day	7
Arts Group	8
School News	10
Kids day out	11
Here and There	13
Looking Back	14

Dates for your Calendar

- 10th Sept Poddy Dodgers at hotel
- 10th Sept Payto's 30th Year Birthday
- 12th September Cob Oven Full Moon dinner
- 17th Sept Spring Garden Day Bombala
- 24th Sept Darts Doubles Hotel
- 1st Oct Slippery When Wet at Hotel
- 1st October Kids Day Bill Jeffreys Park
- 15th October Pre School Reunion
- 23rd October Tennis Tournament
- 19th Nov Snowy River Muster

Local Artists Work Exhibited in Cooma

Work from several Delegate artists will be on display in an exhibition at the Raglan Gallery in Cooma.

The exhibition will feature work from the very popular TAFE Art courses at Cooma and Bombala

The exhibition opens on Saturday 10th September at 3.30pm

Articles and news wanted for the Delegate Doings. If you have a news item, photos or coming events please let us know so they can go into the paper.

Email : delegateprogress@exemail.com.au or phone the RTC on 64588333 or just drop in.

DPA Meeting

7.30pm

20th September

Thankyou

Thankyou to all the volunteers who helped in the planting of the new trees around Delegate and Bill Jeffreys park.

The trees are part of a program for Delegate which was funded by the Delegate Progress Association. Some of the trees were donated by local individuals.

We look forward to the time when the trees grow and enhance our streets and surrounding areas.

Once again a very big Thank You to all involved.

Legge Geoffrey Allen

19th April 1920 to 26th August 2007

We speak your name with love and pride

We smile through tears we try to hide

Thank you Dad for the time we shared

The love you gave, and the way you cared

You left a space, no one can fill

We miss you Dad and we always will

Always loved and forever remembered

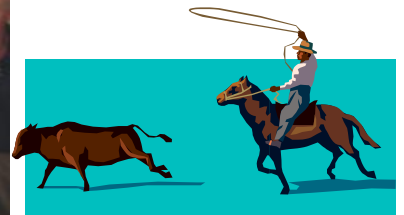
Carol & David, Sue & Ken & families.

Cabanandra Campdraft Presentations

The annual presentation of donations to local organisations was held at the Delegate Hotel on Friday 26th August. Local organisations which benefitted from the fund-raising were Tubbut Hall, Delegate Public School, Delegate Progress Association Museum, Delegate Hospital Auxiliary, Bendoc CFA and Bonang CFA.



L-R Helen Neven, Tom Ventry, Sue Phillips, Doreen Standen, Clare Strickland, Jack Reed, Heather Jones



Wilga Ingram's 80th Birthday



We wrote about this last month but did not have the photos. Congratulations Wilga!

These photos were taken at the Delegate Country Club at Wilga's special afternoon tea.

We don't need captions!



Borderline Gallery Exhibition Opening

Pottery, Paper and Print

The latest exhibition at the Borderline Gallery entitled *Pottery, Paper and Print* was officially opened by Shire President Bob Stewart at a delightful cocktail party on Thursday 25th August.

The latest exhibition has a wonderful collection of work by local artists with whimsical pottery figures, exquisite cards with a local flavour, paintings, photography, woodwork and much more.

In opening the gallery exhibition Mr Stewart said it always gave him much pleasure to visit the gallery and witness the variety of talent on show. He emphasised the importance of the Arts in the community and the role it can play in pulling a community together.

He also referred to the successful *Art Escape Weekends* held at Delegate Art Centre throughout the year. Mr Stewart congratulated the Borderline Gallery committee on the staging of another great exhibition and thanked them for their tireless work in promoting the Arts in this area.

The Borderline Gallery situated at the RTC centre is open Monday, Wednesday – Friday 10am -3pm and the first Saturday of every month. Most items are for sale and there is also a small selection of locally made gifts for sale.



Rhonda Ingram's 50th

Saturday 30th July saw a number of friends & family gather at the Merimbula R.S.L Club to celebrate the 50th birthday of Rhonda Ingram (nee Collins). Guests came from far & wide, Brisbane, Maroochy-dore, Urunga, Sydney, Bendoc & Delegate. After a great meal party goers were entertained in a Manly decorated themed room with trivia questions about Rhonda's favourite things, roses, bands, songs sayings etc. This was put together by Robyn Mikula. Any clues given were charged a fee and funds raised, which totalled \$150.00 Rhonda donated to the Jane McGrath Foundation. This was followed by a poem also written by Robyn Mikula (she is entering the poetry section of the Delegate Show next year).

Rhonda's son Sean then gave a speech written by him and his sister Melissa, before everyone danced until closing to "Slippery When Wet". Among presents given, Rhonda received a photo frame of family memorabilia thought of by eldest sister

Joan Jones and put together by niece Leanne Jones, this was closely favoured with a signed photo of Keith Urban and another of Brett Stewart. A great night was had by all. The family got together the next morning for a recovery breakfast, unfortunately brother Ron and wife Leslie had to leave early for their return trip to Brisbane.

L-R Rhonda, Philomena, Denise, Joan, Francis and Jennifer .



Delegate Café

64 Bombala St Delegate

DINE IN - TAKE AWAY

OPEN 7 DAYS

From 9:00am Weekdays -

10.30am Weekends and Public Holidays

Fruit & Veg - Groceries

Video Hire - Eftpos

Tel (02) 6458 8171

Pizza available most Friday & Saturday Nights

A new service available - Repairs on scratched CD/DVD discs

DELEGATE HOTEL

Your host: Graeme Payten

Accommodation
Counter Lunches

10th Sept 'Poddy Dodgers'

24th Sept Darts Doubles

Names in by 1.30pm

1st Oct 'Slippery When Wet'

Sky Channel & Pub Tab,
ATM and Eftpos

Ph: 6458 8091

TALBOT TRANSPORT



LIVESTOCK & GENERAL

1 Hensleigh Street, DELEGATE 2633

Mobile: 0418 516 076

Phone: (02) 6458 8085

Fax: (02) 6458 8055

DELEGATE FRUIT BARN

Alana's

43 Bombala St., Delegate.

Open 7 days

From 7.30am till 6pm week days

Saturday— 9am till 1pm

Sunday—9am till 3pm.

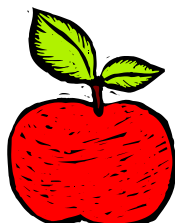
Public Holidays 9am till 1pm

Specialising in:

- Personal service.
- Fresh Fruit & Vegetables
- Groceries and Frozen Food
- Confectionery and Ice Creams

Eftpos

Phone (02) 64588051



In 1981

Charlie marries Diana, Malcom Fraser is PM, Trevor Chappell bowls an underarm, Para and Carlton win premierships, Reagan gets shot, John McEnroe is No1, Just a Dash wins the Cup, and Graeme Payten buys the Delegate Hotel.

In 2011

Diana is gone, Malcom Fraser too. Trevor Chappell can't get a job and Para can't buy a win. Reagan has passed and McEnroe is coaching. Just a Dash dashes no more, but... 30 years on, Graeme Payten is still at the Delegate Hotel.

ITS PARTY TIME. YOU ARE INVITED TO THE BEST PUB IN THE LAND TO CELEBRATE

PAYTO'S **30**TH YEAR.

6pm Saturday 10 September

@DELEGATE HOTEL

(recovery Sunday 11 September)

ITS BEEN AN EPIC JOURNEY FOR PAYTO, AND HE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU THERE FOR A FEW COLD ONES!

For accomodation call: 0264588091



Create a Gnome
take it home

Needle felting
with
Jenny Romano

Jenny works from her studio in Metung, creating dolls and other figures from Polymer clay and, more recently, needle felting and wet felting. She is excited about bringing her workshop to Bonang. Tubbut Neighbourhood House is thrilled to be bringing her to our region.

Saturday October 15th, 10 am - 5 pm

Bonang Hall

Cost: \$5

All materials available & included in cost.

Bring a piece of foam - old cushion, large car sponge - to lay your piece on.

Bookings essential, up to 15 people.

Ring Tubbut Neighbourhood House on 02 64580295 or email tubbutnh@bigpond.com

Laughter The best Medicine

When I got home last night, my wife demanded that I take her to someplace expensive. So I took her to the petrol station and then the fight started.

Quote for September

All men are not homeless, but some men are home less than others.

LANDMARK

an AWB company

Delegate

Tel: 6458 8004

a.h. - Justin Lewis

Ph: 6458 8106

Mobile 0429 991 240

Livestock

Merchandise

Insurance - Wool

Finance - Fertilizer

Delegate Hair Boutique



Open
All Day Fridays
Delegate School
of Arts
Call in on the day
or telephone
6458 7240
For an appointment

PLUS For all
Your Floral
Arrangements
weddings,
Birthdays,
Anniversaries,
Wreaths and
Private
Functions

Phone Pam
on 6458 7240



Spring Garden Day in Bombala

If you love gardens and all things pertaining to this wonderful activity you must mark Saturday September 17th in your diary

This wonderful day has lots on offer for the gardener

- Open gardens – *Burnima* - a \$5 entry
Betty Bruin's garden and Bonsai display – a \$2 entry
- Monaro Native Tree Nursery will be open to the public
- At the Railway Park in Bombala there will be a lavender distilling demonstration and an exhibition of photography, and garden craft in the railway buildings
- Workshops at the community garden

The Garden Supply centres in Bombala will be open till late for all your gardening needs.

People wishing to take part in this wonderful day are advised to visit the Visitors Information Centre first to pick up maps and information about the different venues

Remember that those who garden have a decreased likelihood of stress-related illness.

Second National 'Managing the Carbon Cycle' Forum

Queanbeyan Conference centre Wednesday & Thursday 21st&22nd September 2011

Delegate and District Arts Group Update

ART IN THE PARK

After several discussions a fabulous day devoted to the Arts has been proposed for Saturday April 28th 2012.

This day will be called *Art in the Park* and will involve some wonderful activities in the Bill Jeffreys Park culminating in a Gala Concert at the School of Arts in the evening.

Some ideas which have been proposed are

- A sculpture exhibition on the riverbank
- An open-air art exhibition, people will be allocated an area and choose to exhibit their art in keeping with that place, all types of visual arts included
- Children's activities
- A story telling tent, a place where people can meet for a cuppa and a yarn. Stories could be recorded for future publication
- A poet's corner where bush poets can entertain
- Wandering minstrels
- Print and paper workshops
- Dance, Tai Chi, and Yoga demonstrations
- Woodwork displays (The Woodwork Room could be open that afternoon)
- Cob Oven and cooking activities
- Various stalls for different community groups

The evening concert at the School of Arts would feature items by local talents and performances put together by different community groups. Remember the variety shows of years gone by *The Cow and Shrub*, *The French Follies* etc perhaps we can start a revival of the tradition?

We are calling for expressions of interest in providing displays or workshops or performances. The more people involved the more exciting this day will be. We have a superb location, April can turn on lovely weather, all that we need now is enthusiasm and lots of creativity...

Please contact the RTC if you are interested in being involved in any part of the festivities

Ph.64588388 Monday, Wednesday – Friday 10am- 4pm and leave your name, contact details and area of interest.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

12th John Briscoe Memorial Award

Entries are now open for this most prestigious Art prize.

Further details are available from www.raglangallery.org.au or from the Raglan Gallery Cooma

Entry forms are available from the Delegate RTC. Entries close Friday 30th September 2011

Pencils and brushes to work!

Page 8 The exhibition of work will open Saturday 8th October 2011 at the Raglan Gallery Cooma

MY (MINED) COUNTRY By J.F. Kennedy of Uralla

With apologies to Dorothea Mackellar

The love of cheap resources,
that lie beneath the plains,
Drilling rigs and dusty pits,
mined out mineral veins.
Strong love of black soil vastness,
warm rain from summer skies.
They know but cannot share it,
their love is otherwise.
They love a mined out country,
great holes across the plains.
Of rugged rusted drag lines,
and washed out tail waste drains.
They love her deep rich coal seams,
a black and shimmering sea.
Sulphur dust cloaked mine walls,
exhaust fumes blowing free.
A stark white bed rock mine pit,
all tragic to the moon.
Overburdens dusty mountains,
in the hot bleak hush of noon.
White jumble of the bedrock.
where rusted cables coil.
Shudder of the long wall blast,
where once were crops and soil.
Core of our land this country.
Smoke swept mining skies.

Grasslands once all around us,
torn up by and by.
But then bulldozers gather,
and we can hear again.
The thunder of an army,
coal loaded mining train.
Core of our land, this country,
of coal and gas and gold.
When all is gone and holes are left,
we will pay the price threefold.
Over dusty pits and mine holes.
Watch, after many days.
A choking haze of diesel smoke,
that thickens as we gaze.
An opal hearted country,
a wilful lavish land.
All those who mine and drill her
will not understand.
They seek her many treasures,
and take all they can find.
Mined out dusty coal pits,
like headstones left behind.

*This poem appeared recently in the Weekly Times,
and we thought it relevant with the current mining,
debate.*

Future Footy Talent

The Queanbeyan Blues 'White' Under 9 Rugby League team was undefeated this year, scoring a total of 606 points with only 146 points scored against them. Well done boys!

Two of the young players in the team have local family connections, hence the interest.

Blake Crotty, great-grandson of Madge and John Crotty, was outstanding, scoring a total of 36 tries and kicking 14 goals, for a grand total of 172 points for the season. Blake will be the one to watch in the future!

Cameron Cuschieri, grandson of Gloria Cotterill, playing in his first season of Rugby League, took to it like a veteran, scoring 18 tries and kicking 3 goals for a total of 78 points.



DELEGATE SCHOOL NEWS

The Snowy Mountains District Primary Schools Sports Association held their Regional Athletics Carnival on the 2nd September at the Australia Institute of Sports in Canberra the School sent a P5 Small Schools Relay Team which had Emma Stewart, Francis Famador, Toby Mustard and Archie Horton and they ran a fantastic race and came 1st and now they are off to Sydney for the State competition on the 19th & 20th October 2011 at Olympic Park Homebush. The Delegate Public School would like to wish them all the best of luck.

Thank You

A very special thank you to the Cabanandra Camp Draft and the Delegate Camp Draft for the wonderful donation of \$250.00 each, Total \$500.00. This is for the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program

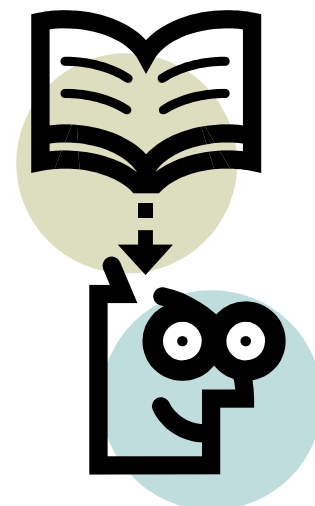


Raffle

Fathers Day Raffles 1st Jazzy Thompson \$40 Foodworks Voucher 2nd Peter Stewart Pizza & Movie from the Delegate Café and 3rd Ron Horton Bottle of Cheer. Thank you for your support.

Stephanie Alexander Garden News

The students will be selling seedlings from their garden at the school and Landmark in Delegate. So please come and get your seedlings and support our children.





ABN 21 570 922 668

Bombala Council resolved at its Ordinary Meeting held on 24 August 2011 to commence the process of seeking community comment on a proposal to reduce the number of Councillors representing the Bombala Council area from nine Councillors to seven.

Advice has been received from the Department of Local Government that for a short time this year, due to amendments to the Local Government Act 1993, Councils may apply to the Minister for Local Government to reduce the numbers of Councillors without the need for approval at a Constitutional Referendum.

The proposal to reduce Councillor numbers must be presented to the Division of Local Government before 28 November 2011.

The proposal must be placed on public exhibition for a period of at least 42 days. The proposal will go on public exhibition on Wednesday, 7 September 2011 until 5.00pm on Wednesday, 19 October 2011.

Submissions are invited and will be received up to 5.00pm on Wednesday, 19 October 2011.

D Cottee General Manager

CTC @ Delegate

Delegate RTCT Centre

Borderline Gallery

Open Mon 10-3

Wed 10-3

Thur 10-3

Fri 10-3

Photocopying, Fax

Internet and computer use,

Free internet for over 50's

Centrelink

Printing and binding

Photo printing

Gallery sales

Gift ware and card sales

Tourist Information and maps

Justice of the Peace available most Wednesdays

other days and times by appointment.

Delegate Progress Association

Delegate Doings Office.

Delegate Nurses Cottage Bookings

Ph: 64588388

Fax: 64588374

Email: dpaoffice@bigpond.com

Famous Historic Delegate Tennis Tournament

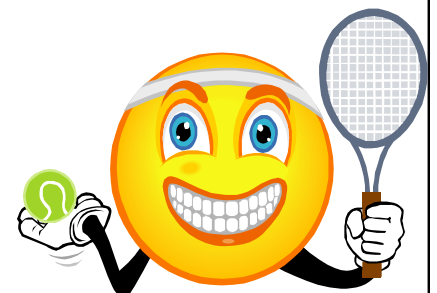
Is on again

23rd October

Fundraising for resurfacing the courts

Come one come all

More details next paper look for posters around town





COMING SOON....

- Men's Sand Green Championships**
18th of September 2011.
- Delegate Pre-School Re-Union**
15th October 2011.
- Singles Dart Competition**
22nd October 2011.
- Melbourne Cup Ladies Luncheon**
1st November 2011.

SINGLES DARTS COMPETITION..

ALL GRADES WELCOME

SATURDAY 22ND OF OCTOBER

SIGN UP FROM 4PM \$10 ENTRY

COMP KICKS OFF AT 5PM

SNACKS AVAILABLE ALL NIGHT

WIN CASH

1st Prize \$350!

MELBOURNE CUP LADIES LUNCH

Glass of Bubbles, Light Lunch & Sweep Included

\$25.00 Per Head **BOOKING ESSENTIAL**

The Delegate Country Club

For the Information of

Members & Their Guest

02 6458 8169

Kids Day Out Bill Jeffreys Park

Last year saw the first of these days and what a success it was! Well it's back, a family day at the park on Saturday October 1st 2011

There will be more information in the next Delegate Doings but what we do know so far is that there will be a cob oven cook-off, planting activities at the community garden, a jumping castle, a cow pat lotto, sheep drag races, a fly fishing competition, a fly making competition and face painting just for starters.

Driving Tip

How to achieve good vision while driving during a heavy downpour

We are not sure why this is so effective: just try this method when it rains heavily. It was told by a police friend who experienced and confirmed it, it is useful even at night.....

Most motorists would turn on the HIGH or FASTEST speed of the wipers during heavy downpour, yet the visibility is still bad..... Instead just **PUT ON YOUR SUNGLASSES** (any model will do), and miracles! All of a sudden, your visibility in front of the windscreen is perfectly clear, as if there is no rain.

Make sure you always have a pair of **SUNGLASSES** in the car. You are not only helping yourself to drive safely with good vision but also might save your friend's life by giving him this idea. Try it yourself and share it with your friends!!!!

Amazingly you can still see the drops on the windshield, but not the sheet of rain falling. You can see where the rain bounces off the road. It works to eliminate the 'blindness from passing or the 'kickup' if you are following a car in the rain. This little tip ought to be in driver training **IT REALLY DOES WORK!**

HERE & THERE

Congratulations to the Delegate Public School Senior Relay team Archie Horton, Francis Famador, Emma Stewart and Toby Mustard who on Friday 2nd September won at the Regionals in Canberra and will now progress to the State Finals in October.



Harry Sellers with Nick Rosen, Luke Platts and Kurt Lomas playing in the U 15's Rugby League in Cooma last Sunday were unlucky not to go straight to the Grand Final when they lost 20-16 in extra time after a cliff-hanging game with Crookwell. They now need to defeat Bungendore to get another chance.



Still on sport....Georgia Reed granddaughter of Natalie, Barry and Alma has had a successful year in Netball being part of the Queanbeyan Representative U13 side who were runners up at State comp in Wollongong. In the local Queanbeyan team the Waratahs,

13 yr old Georgia is playing in the open competition finals this week.



You may have noticed many different faces around the town in the last few weeks. We have various teams of estimators counting and measuring pine trees prior to the sale of Wilmott's assets.



John Blay co-ordinator of the Bundian Way project will be meeting with members of the Bombala Historical Society on Saturday September 10th. He will be back in Bombala on Tuesday 27th September, attending a BBQ and Landcare meeting, at Craigie that evening.

At the recent Fathers Day Talent Quest held at the Country Club Veronica Hartmieir won 1st Prize and a group of Delegate girls won 2nd Prize.

Sophie Reece turned 30 last week and celebrated with a party at home.



Other birthdays for September are Monique Ingram, Russell Buckman, Chelseah Kimber, Aden Cotterill, Kassie Cotterill, Todd Cuschieri, Kerrie Cuschieri and Allen Buckman.

Attention: All potential Sculptors start thinking of a project for our 'Art in the Park' Festival which will incorporate 'Sculpture by the River', a competition for young and old. Sculpture can be natural or recycled materials or any combination. Prizes for sections. For more details keep an eye on future Delegate Doings.

Congratulations to Graeme Payton for his 30 years at the Delegate Hotel. The pub will be rocking on Saturday night for the big party.



LOOKING BACK



*Nina Armstrong centre front Gwen and Phyllis Beileiter, Mavis Callaghan (Middle)
Barbara Lucas Muriel Shipp, Phyllis Crawford (r)*

Below: Moving the preschool into town. A very delicate operation. Any photos and memorabilia would be appreciated for the pre school reunion on 15th October.



Community Information

EMERGENCY / AMBULANCE: 000

FIRE: 000

POLICE

Delegate: 6458 8044

Bombala : 64583444

Cooma: 6452 0099

Bendoc: 6458 1523

HOSPITAL: 6459 8000

DOCTOR: 64951369

CHURCHES

Catholic: Father Paul Hothnance PP 64522062

Father John Vallayil 64522062

Sister Teresa Keane: 6458 3045

Mass: Summer: Saturday 6:00pm

Winter: Saturday 5:00pm

(except in special circumstances)

Anglican: Rev. Denise Channon 64583018

64957040

Rev Judy Holdsworth—64583513

Services: 11am every Sunday

St. Andrews Community Church—

To be Advised September 25th

COMMUNITY HEALTH (3 days per week)

Generalist Community Nurse –Monday, Thursday, Friday

Wellness Clinic—Monday and Thursday 0900-10.30

Pathology—Wednesdays 0930-1-3- hours

Immunisation Clinic—Fourth Thursday from 1100hours.

Victorian Visits Tuesdays

Call MPS 64598000

Healthdirect and GP helpline 1800022222

MONARO FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Bombala Office: 6458 4888

open Tues to Thurs - 9:00am to 5:00pm

COUNCIL CHAMBERS: 6458 3555

DELEGATE PRE-SCHOOL: 6458 8196

DELEGATE PUBLIC SCHOOL: 6458 8183

DELEGATE PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

RTCT Centre - 6458 8388— DPAoffice@exemail.com.au

Newspaper: delegateprogress@exemail.com.au

NRMA/RACV: Jack Stewart: 64588047

TUBBUT ACCESS CENTRE: 6458 0295

DELEGATE CARAVAN PARK: 64584047

Delegate Progress Association Inc.

66A Bombala Street

DELEGATE NSW 2633

PH 6458 8388 Fax 64588 374

E-mail dpaoffice@bigpond.com

delegateprogress@exemail.com.au

(for paper)

‘Delegate Doings’ Subscription:

\$25.00 by post (\$50.00 overseas)

Email \$13.20.

Cash or Cheque payable to

The Delegate Progress Association Inc

Amount \$ _____

Name

Address or email:

The Delegate Doings is published by the Delegate Progress Association. We welcome information about meetings and reports on functions and other activities of local people and organisations, factual historical articles and poetry etc. We do not publish letters to the editor. The publisher accepts no responsibility for any advertisement, or articles. Any advertisement or article is published at the risk of the contributor, who accepts liability for any intended publication. All such contributors agree to indemnify the publisher and warrant that the material is accurate and is neither deceptive or misleading, in breach of copyright, defamatory, or in breach of any other laws and regulations.

ADVERTISING IN THE “DELEGATE DOINGS”

Spot Ad:	1	6	11
\$5 cash—\$7.50 a/c	Issue	Issues	Issues
1/4 Page	\$17.50	\$87.50	\$157.50
1/2 Page	\$35.00	\$175.00	\$315.00
Full Page	\$70.00	\$350.00	\$630.00
Back Page	\$80.00		
Full Page Insert	\$90.00		

Colour advertising: prices on application

Gardening News

Plant Profile – Petunia

At this time of year we are impatient to plant all those warm weather varieties and yet we really do know that late frosts will be likely to undo all our hard work! There is one plant that avoids the problem. Petunias are an excellent choice for early planting in this district because they will tolerate frost down to - 4° C and later as much heat as summer can produce. The flower form is quite varied from single to frilled and fully double. The colours are endless too, some come with white edges and stripes. My favourites are the cool blues with veins because by summer the garden can look quite fussy with a lot of yellow, orange and pink and blue rests the eye.

Petunias are a wonderful annual because they have lush foliage, perfumed, long lasting and come in a vast array of forms and colours. They can be propagated from cuttings and stems can be picked for the vase. Interestingly the buds keep blooming in the vase for more than a week especially if the vase is in a well lit position.

Petunias do well in containers too because they are not troubled by reflected heat from paving as much as other plants and if they wilt they soon recover when watered.

It is not just the flower form of petunia that varies – there are compact types and trailing types that look stunning in hanging baskets. Petunias are disease free and respond well to dead heading and cutting back when they outgrow their position or form too many seed pods which makes them straggly. The single flowers tend to fall cleanly from the plant but doubles may brown and remain attached.

Annual phlox were once commonly grown as companions to petunias but breeding programmes for this native of the American State of Georgia has not matched that of the petunia. Phlox are smaller less robust plants compared to the heavily hybridised petunia. They are not as cold tolerant but do very well in exposed positions as not damaged as easily by wind. They also propagate easily from stem cuttings and add a cottage garden feel with their less vibrant coloration.

This month I have deliberately not featured the vegie patch. **October** is soon enough to prepare for the true warm season crops such as tomato, cucumber, beans, melons and peppers. There is still quite a lot of cold to get through yet. However potato tubers, and seed of peas, silverbeet, radish, lettuce, coriander, English spinach and beet-root should be O.K. to plant now.

